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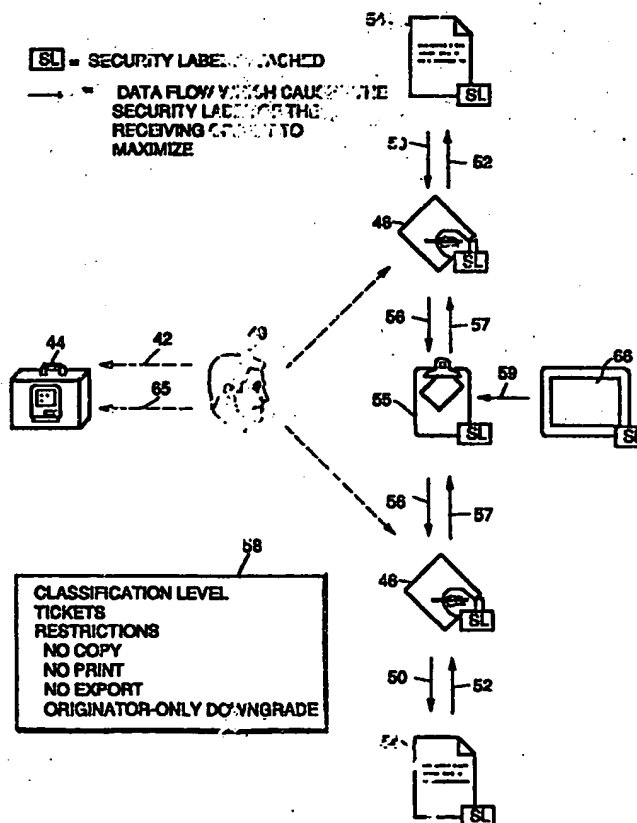
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(54) Title: A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MAINTAINING ACCESS SECURITY DURING INPUT/OUTPUT OPERATIONS IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

Disclosed is a computer system and a method under which a personal computer or a workstation may use commercial off-the-shelf software application packages with a commercially available operating system while providing features of multi-level security including mandatory access controls and propagation of classification levels and codewords when information is moved between documents. Users are allowed to manually reclassify documents (including downgrading) as necessary. The present invention may also be embodied to provide security when computer are on a network by means of a secure file server.



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**A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
MAINTAINING ACCESS SECURITY OF INPUT AND OUTPUT  
OPERATIONS IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM**

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

**1. Field of the Invention**

This invention relates in general to computer security systems, and, more particularly, to a computer security system and a method for automatically limiting user access to information stored in the computer in accordance with a predetermined, but variable, user security profile of permissible operations for each user that aids the user in properly classifying documents.

**2. Description of the Related Art**

Previous implementations of secure computer workstations required the use of a special operating system and could not provide security when commercial off-the-shelf ("COTS") software application packages were used. Such systems, commonly called "Compartmented Workstations", are notoriously inconvenient to use and do not allow for data merger of documents and downgrading of documents.

In general, these previous implementations do not: (1) run on the popular, commercially available computers; (2) allow usage of a broad spectrum of COTS applications and not just "trusted" applications that have been security tested or qualified; (3) allow merger of data of different security levels; (4) allow usage of the standard operating system.

**OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Therefore, it is an object of the present invention to provide a method and system for providing security for documents and data that does not require the use of "trusted" applications only, but allows usage of commercial off-the-shelf software application packages.

It is still another object of the present invention to

1 provide a method and system for providing security for  
2 documents and data that provides propagation of security  
3 labels when data is moved between documents.

4 It is still another object of the present invention to  
5 provide a method and system for providing security for  
6 documents and data that puts the users in control of their  
7 documents provided that they have necessary security access  
8 rights.

9 It is another object of the present invention to  
10 provide a method and system for providing security for  
11 documents and data that facilitates, rather than prevents,  
12 data merger of documents classified at different security  
13 levels.

14 It is yet another object of the present invention to  
15 provide a method and system for providing security for  
16 documents and data that not only prevents unauthorized  
17 access to files and data, but which also aids the user in  
18 properly classifying documents and data retained on the  
19 system or manipulated by the method of the present  
20 invention.

21 Other objects of the present invention are: it does  
22 not require the development of a "trusted" operating  
23 system, but rather exists as an extension to the existing  
24 operating system; provides security of documents on a  
25 network at the workstation level; concentrates on  
26 "detection and audit" of "curious," "hostile" or  
27 "mischievous" action by users as opposed to "prevention" of  
28 such so that more trust is placed on the users allowing for  
29 a more user friendly system.

30 The present invention provides a computer system and  
31 a method under which a personal computer or a workstation  
32 may use commercial off-the-shelf software application  
33 packages with a commercially available operating system  
34 while providing features of multi-level security including  
35 mandatory access controls and propagation of classification  
36 levels and codewords when information is moved between  
37 documents. Users are allowed to manually reclassify

1 documents (including downgrading subject to restrictions)  
2 as necessary. The present invention may also be embodied  
3 to provide security when computer are on a network by means  
4 of a secure file server.

5 The novel features of construction and operation of  
6 the invention will be more clearly apparent during the  
7 course of the following description, reference being had to  
8 the accompanying drawings wherein has been illustrated a  
9 preferred form of the device of the invention and wherein  
10 like characters of reference designate like parts  
11 throughout the drawings.

#### 12 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE FIGURES

13 FIGURE 1 is a block diagram flowchart showing the  
14 general overall logic flow through a system incorporating  
15 the present invention;

16 FIGURE 2 is an idealized block diagram flowchart  
17 showing the general overall operational flow through a  
18 system incorporating the present invention;

19 FIGURE 3 is an idealized diagram showing the various  
20 input/output operations occurring in a system embodying the  
21 present invention; and,

22 FIGURE 4 is an idealized block diagram showing a  
23 structure for the User Access Table and acceptable sub-  
24 field structure.

#### 25 DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

26 A preferred form of the invention as embodied in a  
27 method and computing system for providing occurrence level,  
28 value based security protection, limiting for each user  
29 access to preselected, but variable Input/Output operations  
30 on selected data objects in the computer system is now  
31 described.

32 In general, as shown in FIGURE 1, the invention is  
33 found in a computer system interfacing Input/Output  
34 requests between at least one user, identified by a unique  
35 user identification symbol, and the computer system having

1 at least one data object containing data therein. The  
2 method comprises operating the computer to automatically  
3 perform the following steps.

4 A data object security access label, representing a  
5 security profile defining a user security access level and  
6 the Input/Output operations permitted on the data object,  
7 is established and associated with each data object  
8 selected for security protection 10. Such data objects are  
9 always given this security access label and include "saved"  
10 documents or text files generated by the application  
11 programs that may be running on the computer system.

12 A user security access table is also established 12  
13 that has, for each user selected to have Input/Output  
14 access to the data objects in the computer system, a first  
15 entry identifying the user by the unique user  
16 identification symbol, and a second entry representing a  
17 user security profile for the particular user. The second  
18 entry is used to define the security access level of the  
19 associated user.

20 A session security level "flag" is set to a  
21 preselected default condition representing one of the  
22 security access levels 14.

23 Each user request to the computer system is parsed to  
24 extract each Input/Output request 16. For each of the  
25 found Input/Output requests (1) the unique user  
26 identification symbol of the user making the Input/Output  
27 request; (2) the data object that is the subject of the  
28 Input/Output request; and (3) the requested Input/Output  
29 operation are then extracted.

30 The unique user identification symbol is compared with  
31 the first entry of the user security access table. a user  
32 security access "flag" at the computer system is set to an  
33 "allowed" condition and a user security level "flag" is set  
34 to the security access level defined by the second entry of  
35 the user security access table associated with the user  
36 identification symbol if a match is found, and otherwise  
37 setting each "flag" to a "denied" condition 18.

1           The requested Input/Output operation being requested  
2   is compared with the data object security access label  
3   associated with the data object that is the subject of the  
4   Input/Output request, and at the computer system a data  
5   object security access "flag" is set to an "allowed"  
6   condition if a match is found and otherwise to a "denied"  
7   condition 20.

8           The session security level "flag" is compared to the  
9   user security access level defined in the security profile  
10   for the data object that is the subject of the Input/Output  
11   request, and the session security level "flag" is set to  
12   the predetermined "higher" security level 22.

13          Once the flags have been set, the Input/Output request  
14   is returned to the computer system for processing whenever  
15   the user security access "flag" and the data object  
16   security access "flag" are both in the "allowed" condition  
17   24.

18          It is also preferred that the method of the present  
19   invention including writing at the computer system to a  
20   security violation log the unique user identification  
21   symbol whenever the user security access flag, the user  
22   security level flag or the data object security access flag  
23   is in said "denied" condition, and canceling the execution  
24   of the parsed Input/Output request by the computer system.

25          Similarly, it is also preferred that when a violation  
26   or attempted breach of security is discovered, the  
27   invention returns a preselected message to the computer  
28   system user whenever the user security access flag, the  
29   user security level flag or the data object security access  
30   flag is in the "denied" condition.

31          Also, for ease of changing the various security levels  
32   on the various data objects held in the computer system, it  
33   is preferred that the method allow the computer system user  
34   to access and modify the data object security label  
35   whenever the user security access flag, the user security  
36   level flag, and the data object security access flag are  
37   each in an "allowed" condition.

1           Finally, the data object security access label, the  
2 user security access table and session security level flags  
3 are preferably retained at the computer system until the  
4 computer system user logs off the computer system.

5           In Figure 2, the present invention is shown in an  
6 idealized block diagram flowchart showing the general  
7 overall operational flow through a system incorporating the  
8 present invention where a user 26 has launched two  
9 applications 28, 30, respectively. As shown in the  
10 drawing, the user 26 and each application 28, 30, has a  
11 Security Label 26a, 28a, 30a respectively, associated with  
12 it. The Security Labels are a data structure which defines  
13 access requirements, and propagation restrictions for data  
14 and/or files retained on the system. Examples of such  
15 Security Labels include hierarchial classifications such as  
16 Confidential, Secret, Top Secret and/or a series of  
17 categories or "Tickets" such as various assigned  
18 "codewords".

19           Whenever an application requests an input/output  
20 operation on a document, such as a application 28  
21 requesting to read a document 32, the document labels (here  
22 shown as 32a) associated with the requested documents are  
23 added to the application's label 28a. The application 28  
24 cannot open any document to which the user 26 does not have  
25 access as determined by the user label 26a associated with  
26 the user at logon and user identification.

27           When an application label increases, the session label  
28 34, displayed on the screen for the user, is also  
29 increased.

30           Conversely, when an application such as 30 writes a  
31 document (here shown as 36), any additional categories are  
32 noted and written into the document's label 36a. If the  
33 security level of the application as then running is higher  
34 than the document's original security level, the higher  
35 security level is noted. The user can see what the new  
36 label is and either accept it or change it as described  
37 below.



1           In Figures 3 and 4, the present invention is shown in  
2   an idealized diagram showing the various input/output  
3   operations occurring in a system embodying the present  
4   invention. A user 40 generates an operator request 42 to  
5   the operating system 44 to launch one or more system  
6   included applications 46 resulting in an executing  
7   "Instance" of those programs, for input/output operation on  
8   files 54 available on the system. The applications  
9   programs in turn make the necessary input/output requests  
10   50 and 52 to read and write the user requested files.

11           There exists a Clipboard 55 which implements a  
12   temporary holding buffer for data that is to be copied and  
13   pasted between files. These read and write operations 56  
14   and 57 are performed by the application instance per user  
15   request.

16           In addition there is a means for the user 40 to  
17   request that a user-selected portion of the screen 66 by  
18   read 59 into the Clipboard 55 for subsequent pasting of  
19   that image into any file 54. Each file, the Clipboard,  
20   each Application Instance and the Screen has a Security  
21   Label 58 associated with it as shown in Figure 3 containing  
22   various fields of information. The Security Label 58  
23   associated with of these objects 46, 54, 55 and 59, may  
24   contain several fields, such as a Classification Level, any  
25   required access "Tickets", and a Restriction format such  
26   as "no copy", "no print", "no export", or "originator only  
27   downgrade". Likewise, a User Access Table 60 is  
28   established for verification of the user's identity and  
29   access profile and includes such fields 62 as: "user  
30   identification", "user password", "user level access",  
31   "user tickets map". At logon, the User Access Table 60 is  
32   accessed by the system to determine and establish the  
33   identity and classification access profile of the  
34   individual user 40 requesting to login to the system 65.

35           While the above description emphasizes the method and  
36   system of the present invention in comparing user access  
37   levels with document access levels and disallowing access

1     when the user access does not match, there are other  
2     important novel and non-obvious aspects of the present  
3     invention described below.

4             One such additional important design consideration,  
5     based on the needs of the users for which the system is  
6     intended, is the capability to merge documents of different  
7     classifications while aiding the user in determining the  
8     proper classification for the resulting document.

9             For example, a user may wish to make a presentation  
10    describing a plan that he is working on, and may copy text  
11    and pictures from other documents having security labels of  
12    different security levels to create a composite  
13    presentation document in the course of making the  
14    presentation. The system and method of the present  
15    invention "observes" or intercepts all data which enters  
16    the application being used to prepare the presentation  
17    document, and determines a classification for all documents  
18    written by the application based upon a preselected  
19    weighing of all of the individual classifications found in  
20    each separate document or piece of data being assembled  
21    into the final presentation. Upon user request the  
22    invention then offers its suggested classification for the  
23    composite presentation document to the user.

24            If the user does nothing to reclassify the document,  
25    the present invention automatically assigns the document  
26    its suggested classification. The invention also  
27    distinguishes for the user the original classification of  
28    each document and the labels which it believes may have  
29    been included in creating the composite presentation  
30    document (via various cut and paste, and other I/O  
31    operations such as reading a file).

32            The user is given the capability to accept the  
33    suggested classification label or to downgrade or upgrade  
34    the document as he sees fit. This is in contrast to  
35    compartmented-mode workstations which require the user to  
36    log in at a particular security level and not create any  
37    documents classified at any lower level nor access

1 documents classified at a higher level, making such  
2 workstations unsuitable for the task outlined above.

3 By treating applications as a "black box" and  
4 observing all data going in and out of the applications,  
5 the present invention allows the use of commercial-off-the  
6 -shelf applications and does not require any special  
7 security features in the applications software being run on  
8 a system embodying the present invention, i.e., "trusted"  
9 or "certified" software.

10 The actions of the invention are at times more complex  
11 than that outlined above. For example, not only is the  
12 classification level of each application maintained and  
13 assigned to documents written by that particular  
14 application, but the classification level of the entire  
15 session is maintained as well. Therefore, if the user  
16 takes a screen snapshot and pastes it in a document, the  
17 entire session label is applied to that document, since  
18 portions of the screen owned by any other concurrently  
19 running applications displaying data, may have been  
20 included in the screen snapshot.

21 The further operation of a method and system embodying  
22 the present invention is now described using the following  
23 terms:

24 Application Instance - an application currently  
25 executing on the system;

26 Security Label - a data structure which defines access  
27 requirements, and propagation restrictions for data and/or  
28 files retained on the system. Examples of such Security  
29 Labels include hierarchial classifications such as  
30 Confidential, Secret, Top Secret and/or a series of  
31 categories or "Tickets" such as various assigned  
32 "codewords".

33 Tickets - additional Security Labels restricting a  
34 file or data to a select group granted a "ticket" for  
35 access.

36 Clipboard - the operating system's inter-application  
37 cut/copy/paste buffer utility;

1           Maximize - the combining of two security labels in  
2           accord with a pre-determined algorithm such as a selected  
3           set of weighted selection values.

4           The method and system of the present invention runs  
5           concurrently with the operating system to intercept any  
6           Input/output service calls to the operating system as  
7           follows:

8           1. Whenever the operating system "launches" an  
9           application (an Application Instance), this interception  
10          entails the following steps:

11          A. The Security Label of the Application Instance is  
12          set to the preselected Startup Application Security Label;

13          B. If the Security Label indicates that the Clipboard  
14          buffer contains data which cannot be downgraded in  
15          classification, it prompts the user to either allow the  
16          read (and thus Maximize the Security Label of the  
17          Application Instance with that of the Clipboard) or to  
18          delete the contents of the Clipboard buffer, leaving the  
19          Security Label of the Application Instance as it originally  
20          was.

21          C. If the Application Instance performs an automatic  
22          read of the Clipboard buffer, and the Security Label  
23          indicates that the data does not contain data which cannot  
24          be downgraded, then Maximize the Security Label of the  
25          Application Instance with that of the Clipboard buffer.

26          D. Recalculate the Security Label of the screen as a  
27          Maximization of the Security Labels of all Application  
28          Instances.

29          2. Whenever an Application Instance performs an open  
30          of a file, this interception entails the following steps:

31          A. Maximize the Security Label of the Application  
32          Instance with the Security Label of the file being opened.

33          B. Recalculate the Security Label of the screen as a  
34          Maximization of the Security Labels of all Application  
35          Instances.

36          3. Whenever an Application Instance performs a write  
37          to a file, this interception entails the following steps:

1           A. Set the Security Label of the file to the Security  
2 Label of the Application Instance.

3           B. Do not allow any write if there is a "no copy"  
4 restriction on the data or file.

5           4. Whenever an Application Instance terminates, this  
6 interception entails the following steps:

7           A. Recalculate the Security Label of the screen as a  
8 Maximization of the Security Labels of all the remaining  
9 Application Instances.

10          5. Whenever an attempt is made to "boot" or start-up  
11 the operating system of the computer in the system, this  
12 interception entails the following steps:

13          A. Prompt the user for username/password.

14          B. If username/password does not exist in the User  
15 Access Table, then shutdown and deny any further access to  
16 the system.

17          C. Otherwise, if the username/password is found in  
18 the User Access Table, then set the Security Label of the  
19 screen to the preselected Startup Screen Security Label.

20          6. Whenever an Application Instance performs a read  
21 from the Clipboard, this interception entails the following  
22 steps:

23          A. Maximize the Security Label of the Application  
24 Instance with the Security Label of the Clipboard.

25          B. Recalculate the Security Label of the screen as a  
26 Maximization of the Security Labels of all Application  
27 Instances.

28          7. Whenever an Application Instance performs a write  
29 to the Clipboard, this interception entails the following  
30 steps:

31          A. Set the Security Label of the Clipboard to the  
32 Security Label of the Application Instance.

33          8. Whenever an Application Instance performs a print  
34 of a file, this interception entails the following steps:

35          A. Do not allow the print if a "no print" restriction  
36 on the data or file.

37          B. Stamp the Security Label on all pages.

1           The following Utilities embody features found in the  
2 present invention:

3           A first Utility provides a means to display and allow  
4 the user to modify, with restrictions, the Security Label  
5 of a file as follows:

6           A. Upon user request, the utility displays the  
7 Security Label of the selected file;

8           B. The utility also provides a means to differentiate  
9 for the user the Security Level and Tickets applied by the  
10 security software from the Security Level and Tickets  
11 applied by the user to the file.

12          C. The utility prohibits certain Security Label  
13 changes based on user-tailorable Restrictions.

14          A second Utility, upon user request, provides a means  
15 to display the Security Label of a selected Application  
16 Instance.

17          A third Utility provides a means to display the  
18 Security Label of the screen by making it always visible  
19 during a user session. Thus, constantly reminding the user  
20 of the various classification levels of documents appearing  
21 on the screen.

22          A fourth Utility provides a means for the user to  
23 select a portion of the screen and take a "picture" of it,  
24 putting the results into the Clipboard buffer for later  
25 manipulation by the user.

26          A fifth Utility provides a means for the operator to  
27 define the User Access Table, the Security Levels and  
28 "Tickets", the Startup Screen Security label, and the  
29 Startup Application Security Label.

30          The invention described above is, of course,  
31 susceptible to many variations, modifications and changes,  
32 all of which are within the skill of the art. It should be  
33 understood that all such variations, modifications and  
34 changes are within the spirit and scope of the invention  
35 and of the appended claims. Similarly, it will be  
36 understood that Applicant intends to cover and claim all  
37 changes, modifications and variations of the example of the

1 preferred embodiment of the invention herein disclosed for  
2 the purpose of illustration which do not constitute  
3 departures from the spirit and scope of the present  
4 invention.

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1. In a computer system interfacing Input/Output  
2 requests between at least one user, identified by a unique  
3 user identification symbol, and the computer system having  
4 at least one data object containing data therein, a method  
5 for providing occurrence level, value based security  
6 protection, limiting for each user access to preselected,  
7 but variable Input/Output operations on selected data  
8 objects in the computer system, said method comprising  
9 operating the computer to automatically perform the steps  
10 of:

11           establishing and associating with each data object  
12 selected for security protection, a data object security  
13 access label representing a security profile defining a  
14 user security access level and the Input/Output operations  
15 permitted on the data object;

16           establishing a user security access table having, for  
17 each user selected to have Input/Output access to the data  
18 objects in the computer system, a first entry identifying  
19 the user by the unique user identification symbol, and a  
20 second entry representing a user security profile  
21 associated therewith, said second entry defining the  
22 security access level of the associated user;

23           set a session security level "flag" to a preselected  
24 default condition representing one of said security access  
25 levels;

26           parsing each Input/Output request from the user to the  
27 computer system and extracting therefrom (1) the unique  
28 user identification symbol of the user making the  
29 Input/Output request; (2) the data object that is the  
30 subject of the Input/Output request; and (3) the requested  
31 Input/Output operation;

32           comparing the unique user identification symbol with  
33 the first entry of the user security access table and  
34 setting at the computer system a user security access  
35 "flag" to an "allowed" condition and a user security level  
36 "flag" to the security access level defined by the second



37 entry of the user security access table associated with the  
38 user identification symbol if a match is found, and  
39 otherwise setting each "flag" to a "denied" condition;

40 comparing the requested Input/Output operation being  
41 requested with the data object security access label  
42 associated with the data object that is the subject of the  
43 Input/Output request, and setting at the computer system a  
44 data object security access "flag" to an "allowed"  
45 condition if a match is found and otherwise to a "denied"  
46 condition;

47 comparing the session security level "flag" to the  
48 user security access level defined in the security profile  
49 for the data object that is the subject of the Input/Output  
50 request, and setting the session security level "flag" to  
51 the predetermined "higher" security level;

52 returning the Input/Output request to the computer  
53 system for processing whenever said user security access  
54 "flag" and said data object security access "flag" are both  
55 in said "allowed" condition.

1 2. A method as in claim 1, further including the  
2 steps of:

3 writing at the computer system to a security violation  
4 log the unique user identification symbol whenever said  
5 user security access flag, said user security level flag or  
6 said data object security access flag is in said "denied"  
7 condition and canceling the execution of the parsed  
8 Input/Output request by the computer system.

1 3. A method as in claim 1, further including the  
2 steps of:

3 returning a preselected message to the computer system  
4 user whenever said user security access flag, said user  
5 security level flag or said data object security access  
6 flag is in said "denied" condition and canceling the  
7 execution of the parsed Input/Output request by the  
8 computer system.

1           4. A method as in claim 1, further including the  
2 steps of:

3           allowing the computer system user to access and modify  
4 the data object security label whenever said user security  
5 access flag, said user security level flag, and said data  
6 object security access flag are each in said "allowed"  
7 condition.

1           5. A method as in claim 1, further including the  
2 steps of:

3           retaining said data object security access label, said  
4 user security access table and said session security level  
5 flag until the computer system user logs off the computer  
6 system.

1           6. In a computer system interfacing Input/Output  
2 requests between at least one user, identified by a unique  
3 user identification symbol, and the computer system having  
4 at least one data object containing data therein, a method  
5 for providing occurrence level, value based security  
6 protection, limiting for each user access to preselected,  
7 but variable Input/Output operations on selected data  
8 objects in the computer system, said method comprising  
9 operating the computer to automatically perform the steps  
10 of:

11           establishing and associating with each data object  
12 selected for security protection, a data object security  
13 access label representing a security profile defining a  
14 user security access level and the Input/Output operations  
15 permitted on the data object;

16           establishing a user security access table having, for  
17 each user selected to have Input/Output access to the data  
18 objects in the computer system, a first entry identifying  
19 the user by the unique user identification symbol, and a  
20 second entry representing a user security profile  
21 associated therewith, said second entry defining the  
22 security access level of the associated user;

23           set a session security level "flag" to a preselected  
24           default condition representing one of said security access  
25           levels;

26           parsing each Input/Output request from the user to the  
27           computer system and extracting therefrom (1) the unique  
28           user identification symbol of the user making the  
29           Input/Output request; (2) the data object that is the  
30           subject of the Input/Output request; and (3) the requested  
31           Input/Output operation;

32           comparing the unique user identification symbol with  
33           the first entry of the user security access table and  
34           setting at the computer system a user security access  
35           "flag" to an "allowed" condition and a user security level  
36           "flag" to the security access level defined by the second  
37           entry of the user security access table associated with the  
38           user identification symbol if a match is found, and  
39           otherwise setting each "flag" to a "denied" condition;

40           comparing the requested Input/Output operation being  
41           requested with the data object security access label  
42           associated with the data object that is the subject of the  
43           Input/Output request, and setting at the computer system a  
44           data object security access "flag" to an "allowed"  
45           condition if a match is found and otherwise to a "denied"  
46           condition;

47           comparing the session security level "flag" to the  
48           user security access level defined in the security profile  
49           for the data object that is the subject of the Input/Output  
50           request, and setting the session security level "flag" to  
51           the predetermined "higher" security level;

52           returning the Input/Output request to the computer  
53           system for processing whenever said user security access  
54           "flag" and said data object security access "flag" are both  
55           in said "allowed" condition;

56           writing at the computer system to a security violation  
57           log the unique user identification symbol whenever said  
58           user security access flag, said user security level flag or  
59           said data object security access flag is in said "denied"

60 condition and canceling the execution of the parsed  
61 Input/Output request by the computer system;

62 returning a preselected message to the computer system  
63 user whenever said user security access flag, said user  
64 security level flag or said data object security access  
65 flag is in said "denied" condition and canceling the  
66 execution of the parsed Input/Output request by the  
67 computer system;

68 allowing the computer system user to access and modify  
69 the data object security label whenever said user security  
70 access flag, said user security level flag, and said data  
71 object security access flag are each in said "allowed"  
72 condition;

73 retaining said data object security access label, said  
74 user security access table and said session security level  
75 flag until the computer system user logs off the computer  
76 system.

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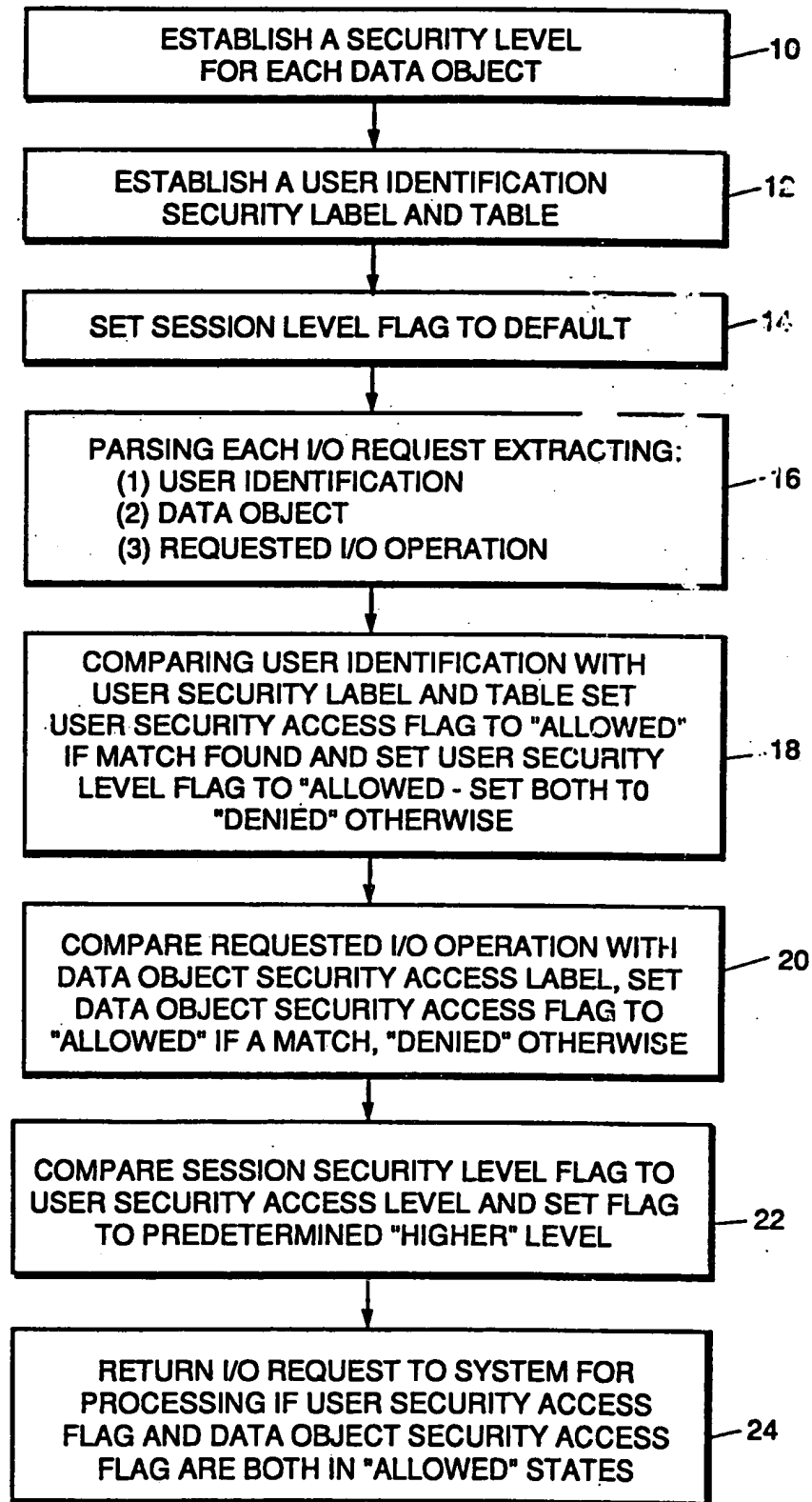


FIG. 1.

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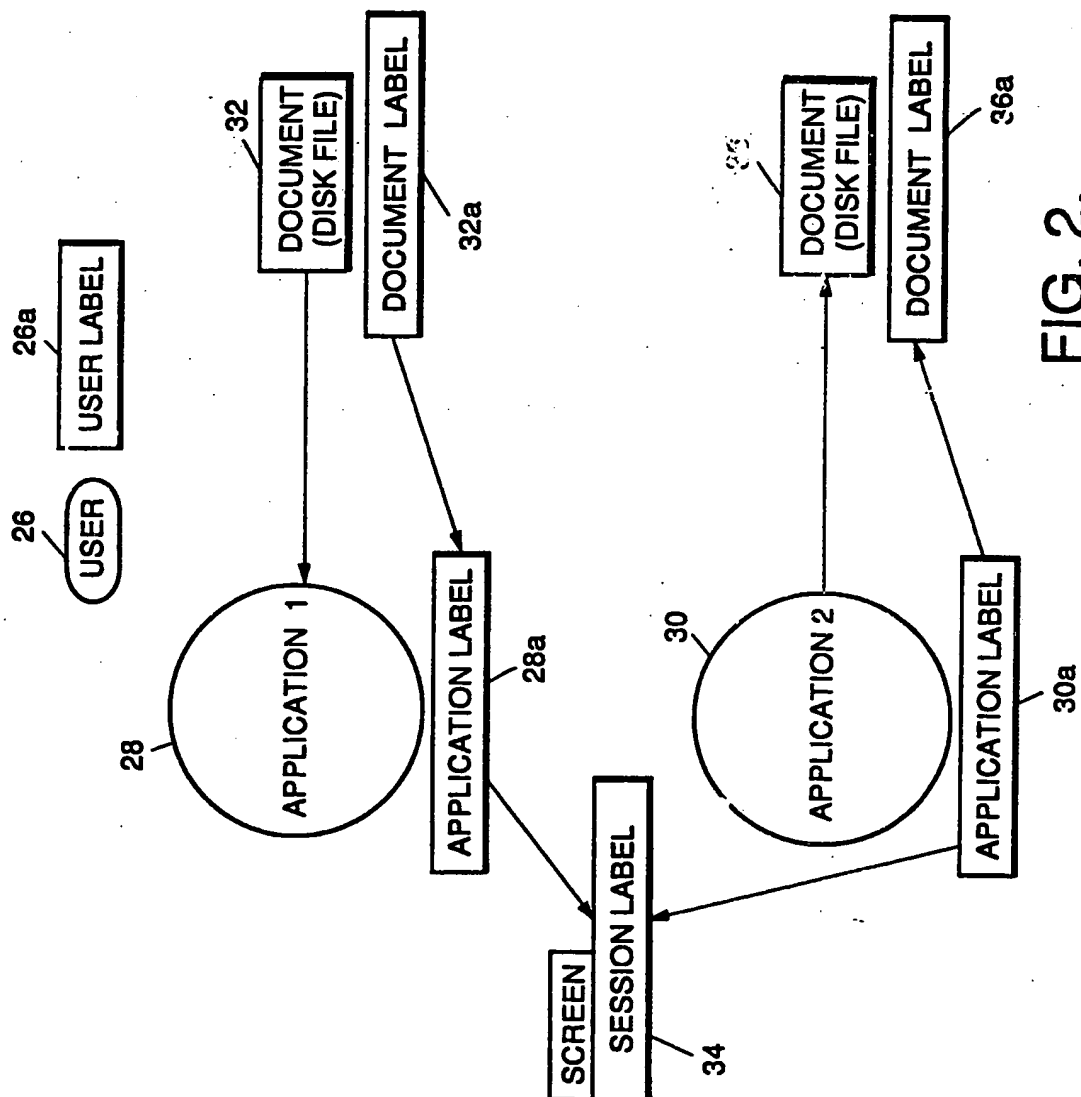
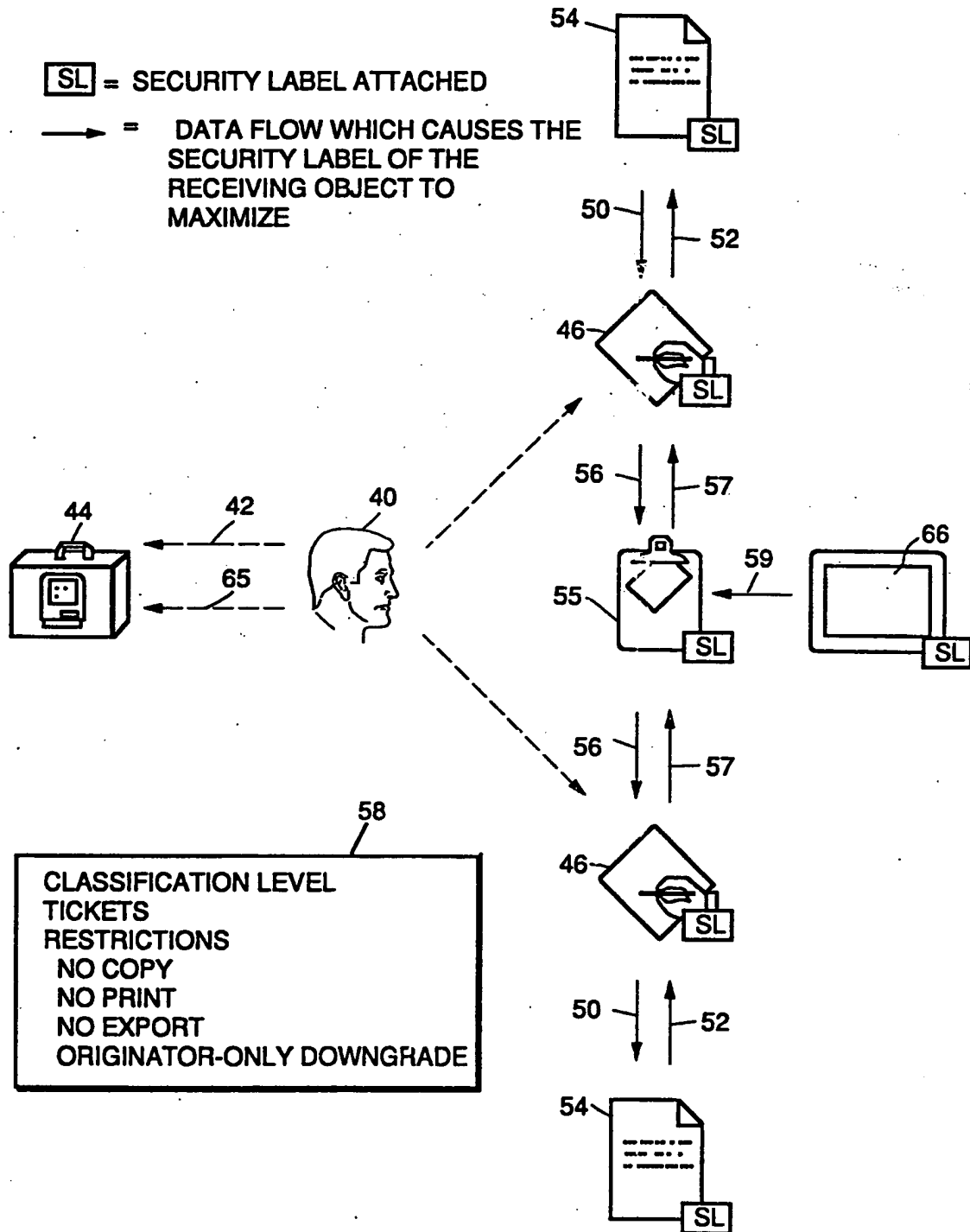


FIG. 2.

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FIG. 3.



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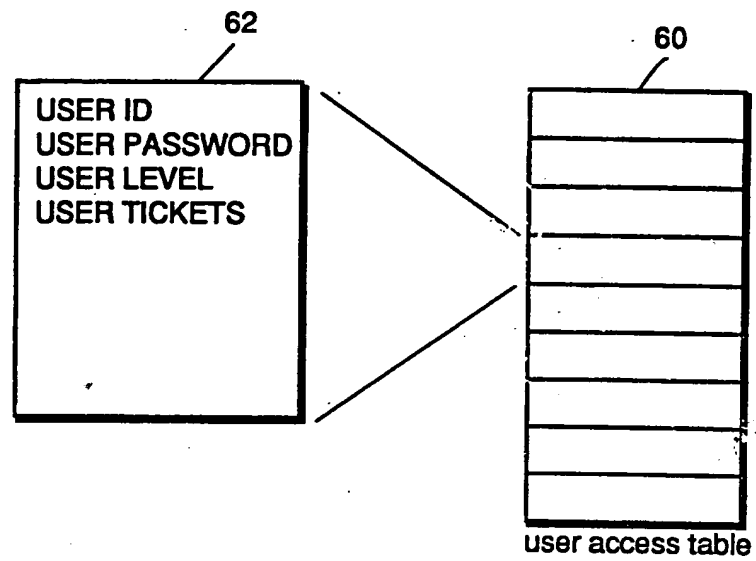


FIG. 4.



## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 94/12457

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 6 G06F1/00 G06F12/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 6 G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US,A,4 956 769 (SMITH) 11 September 1990 see abstract; figures 1,2 see column 1, line 50 - column 6, line 60	1-3,5
Y	---	4
Y	COMPUTERS & SECURITY, vol.6, no.6, December 1987, AMSTERDAM, NL; pages 479 - 492 M.B.THURASINGHAM 'Security Checking in Relational Database Management Systems Augmented with Inference Engines' see page 479, right column, line 1 - line 39 see page 483, right column, line 27 - page 484, right column, line 40 --- -/-	4

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 February 1995

Date of mailing of the international search report

07.03.95

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/US 94/12457

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>EP,A,0 421 409 (IBM) 10 April 1991  see abstract; figures 7-9  see page 7, line 6 - page 8, line 27  see page 9, line 6 - line 25  -----</p>	1-3

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International Application No

**PCT/US 94/12457**

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US-A-4956769	11-09-90	NONE	
EP-A-0421409	10-04-91	US-A- 5048085	10-09-91
		CA-A- 2026739	07-04-91
		JP-A- 3237551	23-10-91
		US-A- 5148481	15-09-92